

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 768

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Pembroke J. Hart.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Pembroke J. Hart; and

WHEREAS, Pembroke Hart was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as a geophysicist, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and the scientific community for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in Evanston, Illinois, Dr. Pembroke Hart grew up in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a 1950 graduate of Harvard University, Dr. Hart also received a master's degree and a doctoral degree in geophysics from Harvard in 1952 and 1955, respectively; and

WHEREAS, in the 1950s, he lent his immeasurable talents as a postdoctorate fellow in the department of terrestrial magnetism at the Carnegie Institution in Washington, where he helped develop ways of examining the Earth's crust by measuring seismic waves generated by explosions set off by the United States Navy; and

WHEREAS, during his time, Pembroke Hart also rendered sterling service in the Army Ordnance Corps and as a geology instructor at Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, he became a staff officer at the National Academy of Sciences coordinating programs associated with that year's International Geophysics Year, which led to decades of scientific projects; and

WHEREAS, he also participated in research programs to study the Earth's mantle and crust and was active in such scientific efforts as the International Geodynamics Project and the International Lithosphere Program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hart compiled a history of distinguished service and justly garnered many awards for his work as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the Geological Society of America; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, he was elected as a lifetime member of the International Commission on the Lithosphere; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional, Dr. Hart became fluent in the Russian language to aid in his international scientific research; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards or accolades, Pembroke Hart received the 2006 Edward A. Flinn III Award of the American Geophysical Union and, in 1963, a geographical feature in Antarctica, the Hart Hills, was named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hart was an elected member of the Cosmos Club, a private social club dating back to 1878, which was formed by men distinguished in science, literature, and the arts; he remained active in the club until his death; and

WHEREAS, Pembroke Hart was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of twenty-seven years, Grace Marshall Hart, who died in 2004; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his two sisters, Alice Cortner and Page Boteler; and

WHEREAS, Pembroke Hart leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Pembroke J. Hart, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Hart.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.